

T-04-1 – “Wood Thrush Study”

Abstract: Wood thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) populations declined 1.8% annually from 1966 to 2003 due in part to habitat loss and degradation across their range. [Sarah Coulter] investigated the effects of forest management on wood thrushes at Sherburne Wildlife Management Area in the Atchafalaya Basin of the lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Louisiana. Wood thrush home ranges tended to be larger in selectively harvested areas than in replanted agricultural fields. Daily nest survival did not vary with forest management but increased with increased vegetation density at the nest. Weekly survival rates for adult wood thrushes also did not differ among management compartments, however the estimate of male survival was numerically higher than female survival. Wood thrush density was positively correlated to stem density and midstory cover, but negatively correlated to herb cover. Wood thrushes at Sherburne Wildlife Management Area may have benefited from some forms of forest management.

(**Abstract copied from:** Coulter, S.C.; 2005; *Effects of Forest Management On Wood Thrushes in the Atchafalaya Basin, Louisiana*; M.S. Thesis; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR; 144 pp.)

This grant was closed 30 June 2005. **For more information** about State Wildlife Grant T-4, or to obtain copies of interim or final reports, please contact the State Wildlife Grant Coordinator, LDWF Fur & Refuge Division.